

# THLS502 Liturgical Music

Music is an integral part of the Church's liturgy – a living art form that voices the Church's prayer and theology in an unsurpassable way. This unit explores the nature of liturgical music, its history, theology, and practise.

With a focus on the Catholic Church's official teaching on music from Vatican II onward, this unit investigates theological principles and contextual issues to be considered when choosing appropriate music for liturgical use. After providing a general introduction to the Catholic Church's definition, documentation and practise of liturgical music, this unit studies the functions, forms, and roles of music in the liturgy today. It identifies what constitutes suitable liturgical music and explores how to choose fitting music for different liturgical moments, purposes, and genres of liturgical texts, and how to evaluate what makes music effective in liturgy as a powerful means for bonding an assembly in its worship of God.

This unit is offered at postgraduate level for students enrolled in masters or graduate certificate/diploma programs in theology and religious education at ACU. Cross-institutional and auditing (attendance, no assessment) enrolments are welcome.

## FEES

Information on fees can be found here: [acu.edu.au/TuitionFees](https://acu.edu.au/TuitionFees)

## DETAILS

7 - 10 July 2025 online via Zoom

## REGISTRATION

Please enrol by 21 June, 2025. For cross-institutional and audit enrolments, please email [ftp.pg@acu.edu.au](mailto:ftp.pg@acu.edu.au) noting the unit number (THLS502).



## LECTURER Professor Clare Johnson

Clare Johnson is Professor of Liturgical Studies and Sacramental Theology at ACU and Director of the ACU Centre for Liturgy. She is Chair of the National Liturgical Music Council advising the Bishops Commission for Liturgy. She will be joined by guest presenters for special sessions of THLS502.